

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 01974 221350Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 ICA-11 AID-05 NSC-05
TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-07 OMB-01 CEA-01 L-03 H-01
PA-01 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 COME-00
FRB-03 XMB-02 ABF-01 ARA-10 IO-13 /112 W
-----020002 221435Z /53

R 221307Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2877
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, IDB, FI
SUBJECT: INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK REPLENISHMENT NEGOTIATION

REF: (A) STATE 154116, (B) STOCKHOLM 2412,

1. VEIKKO KANTOLA, MINISTRY OF FINANCE OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR IDB MATTERS, TOLD US THAT FINLAND IS NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE IDB BOARD OF GOVERNORS HANDLING THE REPLENISHMENT NEGOTIATIONS. THEREFORE THE FINNS PLAN THEIR REPRESENTATIVE TO BE THEIR WASHINGTON EMBASSY COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR, PERTTI RIPATTI.

2. THE FINNS ARE JUST COMPLETING THEIR FIRST YEAR AS NON-REGIONAL MEMBERS OF THE IDB AND STILL HAVE NOT FINISHED PAYING THEIR INITIAL CONTRIBUTION. KANTOLA SAYS THAT THEY HAVE AN ARRANGEMENT WITH THE IDB TO AVOID HAVING TO PAY TWO INSTALLMENTS IN A SINGLE YEAR. IN PRINCIPLE, FINLAND IS NOT ADVERSE TO THE REPLENISHMENT, BUT FINANCIALLY UNABLE TO RESPOND AT THIS TIME.

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3. KANTOLA, IN REVIEWING FINLAND'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE IDB, STRESSED THE COMMERCIAL MORE THAN THE DEVELOPMENTAL ASPECTS OF FINNISH MEMBERSHIP. THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, RATHER THAN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION, HOLDS FINLAND'S GOVERNORSHIP IN THE BANK.

4. THE PRESIDENT OF THE IDB, ANTONIA ORTIZ MENA,
VISITED FINLAND JUNE 6-8, 1978. THE MAJOR
TOPIC OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. MENA DURING HIS
THREE-DAY STAY WAS THE APPLICABILITY OF FINNISH WOOD-
PROCESSING METHODS IN SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES.
INDICATIONS ARE THAT MENA RECEIVED A WARM WELCOME AS HE
WAS EVEN RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT KEKKONEN.

RIDGWAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEVELOPMENT BANKS, BANKS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HELSIN01974
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780260-0911
Format: TEL
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780631/aaaabayd.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e39ebf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 154116, 78 STOCKHOLM 2412
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2251345
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK REPLENISHMENT NEGOTIATION
TAGS: EAID, FI, IDB
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e39ebf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014